HE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

10/700,061

Confirmation No. 3094

Applicant Filed

GIOVANARDI et al. November 4, 2003

TC/A.U.

3724

Examiner

Boyer Dolinger Ashley

Docket No.

25808

Customer No.

20259

For:

TRIMMER

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is the following:

- (1) Transmittal Letter;
- (2) Response and Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.111; and
- One sheet of replacement drawings. (3)

If an Extension of Time under 37 CFR §1.136 is required and has not been separately requested herein, please consider this Transmittal Letter as including a request for such Extension of Time and as a further authorization to charge any fee for such Extension of Time, as may be required by 37 CFR §1.17, to Deposit Account No. 14-0112.

Please charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, in connection with this matter to Deposit Account No. 14-0112.

Date: March / , 2005

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Respectfully submitted,

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RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a full and complete response to the Office Action having a mailing date of December 16, 2004. The three-month shortened statutory period to respond to the Office Action was set to expire March 16, 2005, which makes this a timely filed response to the present Office Action.

Initially, Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. In view of the following amendments and remarks, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the outstanding objections and rejections and allow this application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page $\underline{8}$ of this paper.